



# Pretending to be Normal

Living with Asperger's Syndrome



Liane Holliday Willey

Foreword by Tony Attwood

*Liane Holliday Willey*

## **Pretending to be Normal: Living with Asperger's Syndrome**



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The last area of the book consists of a series of substantial appendices which provide helpful coping strategies and guidance, in line with the author's own experience, for a range of situations. Chronicling her life from her earliest memories through her existence as a university lecturer, writer, wife and mother, Liane Holliday Willey shares, with insight and warmth, the daily struggles and issues that face a lot of those who've Asperger's Syndrome. This positive and humane book will provide not only insight in to the Asperger world that will show invaluable for the professionals who work with people who have Asperger's Syndrome, but also hope and encouragement for other folks with Asperger's Syndrome, their families, and their close friends. Pretending to become Normal tells the story of a woman who, after years of self-doubt and self-denial, learned to embrace her Asperger's syndrome characteristics with thanksgiving and pleasure. Pretending to be Regular invites its visitors to welcome the Asperger community with open up acceptance, for it makes it clear that, generally, they are capable, viable, interesting and kind individuals who simply find exclusive methods to exhibit those qualities.



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It Feels So Good to Know YOU AREN'T Alone This book is wonderful because, as someone with AS, it is absolutely a huge weight off my shoulders to learn I'm not the weird freak I sometimes feel just like. It's an excellent book to read for tips on how to adjust to one's surroundings when confronted with Asperger's Syndrome. We've social issues, but it doesn't mean we don't FEEL overlooked or alone. Scanning this Autobiography is like reading my own. That is extremely freeing and empowering. It makes me feel like there's no reason I can't achieve success and happy and above all accepted. There are certainly others out there like me! For those giving bad reviews-"She is not really diagnosed" FALSE. I "saw" my son in practically every page of this book."Also, even if she wasn't diagnosed, it doesn't mean crap. Doctors IGNORE females with AS on a regular basis. hope to those coping with Asperger's and for individuals who love them. I think my boy and I are now headed to a full, loving, fun relationship, (instead of the dysfunctional one we have been now in), Because of you! It doesn't even make sense. Five Stars Good resource! FALSE.His dad and I be worried about what life is going to be like for him when he is out on his own. That AS is just a difference, not a disease. But what good is that? What's wrong with embracing your distinctions and learning to appreciate the good reasons for having your situation? I think that is the right way of going about any of it. However, it is books like this that provide inspiration to a positive and functional life. It doesn't Need to mean someone is definitely "disabled". I am not a broken person. I also would prefer to study from and accept my shortcomings that stem from AS, instead of dwell on them and make an effort to change my core as a person."It looks back again at childhood problems and turns them right into a fairy tale". Not so. Eye opening, jaw dropping Liane Holliday brings you in to the inner globe of the Asperger Syndrome mind. After I realized I acquired AS and got my analysis (to confirm what I already full well knew), I could look back again and say, "Aha! Instead I'd rather enjoy the few wonderful people I have in my own life who love my quirkiness and brilliance. I have talked to some individuals who I share my experiences with and some of the reactions are that AS is a made up condition to allow people a justification to be rude. It's a good book to learn for tips on how to adjust . I am not really some type of freak!" It allowed me to HEAL and progress as an adult. And that is why this story is so important. This book presents insight &We am extremely thankful because of this story. Many thanks, Ms. Five Stars Awesome read should you have any curiosity relating to anything with the autism spectrum. The author offers desire to Aspies (and the "regular" people who love them) for designing a life that sometimes chooses to fit in with the others of society yet occasionally consciously chooses rather to celebrate their endearing, if quirky, strengths. It experienced like I was reading a tale of my life in so many ways. I read various other books that talked about AS but this one was truly helpful with the examples given in how lifestyle was for the author. It is one thing to read a textbook on the subject but a complete different thing to it from the look at of an AS person. With the proper support mechanisms set up, I know my stepson gets the best chance of success. More people have to understand these individuals and figure out how to be supportive to help them along. I am simply different. They don't really understand that these people live in a hard world and aren't attempting to be different just to see what they are able to get away with. It really is books like this that really explain the down sides AS people have on a daily basis and what they perform need is understanding. Amazing ? Thank you for composing this book.It demonstrates it isn't a loss of life sentence. We do know that it will not be easy. I assume I could relax in a part and cry about how exactly really difficult it is definitely for me to create friends, and I could teach my child to accomplish the same. I recommend this book for anybody dealing with the problem. Illuminating! Essential read for anybody who knows an Aspie As a mother of an adult Aspie, this book was a Godsend. Heartwarming at times--heartwrenching sometimes. Not all Aspies talk about all traits and the writer shares some, however, not all traits with my boy. Her ability to clearly express her confusion, dread, and frustration brought me some answers for my child who could not express his so well. Very much helpful I am new to AS with a stepson that was diagnosed four years ago. This honest and informative autobiography! Sometimes heartbreaking honest

this book touches in so many aspects of this spectrum of Autism thought as Asperger's Syndrome. An engaging tale filled with a wealth of personal information for the reader wanting to know more concerning this condition. It could show others to accomplish the same. It is a huge issue. A wonderfully created and easy to read "life story". Recommend this mainly because a "must read" to those who want (and the ones who NEED) to know more on the subject of Asperger's Syndrome. For years, my weird childhood filled with odd or failed public attempts and loneliness used to haunt me.. It really is absolutely vision opening, jaw dropping stuff. My heart filled with compassion, understanding, and my mind filled with extreme understanding. After raising an undiagnosed Aspie child, and the same child is now an adult, I am filled up with pure understanding because of Liane. From the Wiki page: "She was diagnosed with Asperger syndrome in 1999. Many thanks Liane for a superb book. The lack of a diagnosis doesn't mean the issue doesn't exist or isn't valid or that the problems prior to the diagnosis weren't real.! Five Stars Enjoyed reading the authors tale. My stepson is 19 yrs . old and will soon go out into the world and face the same prejudices that folks that hardly understand share. Was not what I was looking for. It really is an incredibly different globe that the AS person lives in. .. Through out this book, she provides through her eloquent writing, the exact way of thinking of the Aspie kid, adolescent and adult. publication elped my grandson understand him self a little better. Thanks This book elped my grandson understand him self just a little better. Thanks Bill Amazing book and essential reading. Best book on the topic. So helpful and accurate. And there are certainly others different just as... One of the biggest issues people that have AS face is normally loneliness. Also, for those saying this sugar coats it. Would not necessarily recommend it. I am a mom of five kids. Would not necessarily recommend it. Holliday-Willey.



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